Texas Workforce Press Release

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MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Givens

TWC Allocates \$1 Million for High-Demand Job-Training Grants to Address Local Workforce Needs

AUSTIN – The Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) today announced the availability of \$1 million in additional funding for the High Demand Job Training Program, which supports collaborations between Workforce Solutions partners and local economic development corporations (EDCs). These grants are part of a statewide effort to create occupational job training programs that will improve the skill sets of individuals for jobs in high-demand occupations in Texas communities.

"Through local partnerships between Texas Workforce Solutions and local EDCs, TWC will leverage resources to increase high-demand job training and strengthen partnerships with local employers," said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. "The High-Demand Job Training program will continue to create unique opportunities for Texas workers and students."

Through an initial \$1 million funding for the High Demand Job Training Program in 2014, TWC matched funds provided by EDCs to local workforce development boards for job training projects in Port Arthur, Kilgore, Lubbock, San Angelo, Coleman, Terrell, Abilene, Mansfield, and a combined effort at Mt. Pleasant, Paris and Sulphur Springs. Instruction was provided to train new employees or upgrade the skills of existing employees for in-demand jobs including welders, nursing assistants, machinist, automotive technicians, CNC operators and registered nurses.

"Through local partnerships, our Workforce Solutions offices and EDCs are able to address the needs of high-demand industries," said TWC Commissioner Representing Employers Ruth R. Hughs. "These grants are great investments in workforce development that will keep our Texas businesses highly competitive and growing."

Through this program, the 28 local workforce development boards will be able to apply for up to \$100,000 to match the amount committed by local EDCs over the next two years and while funds are available.

"By providing customized training and giving students and workers the skills they need for employment or advancement, the High Demand Job Training program is creating better opportunities and high-wage jobs," said TWC Commissioner Representing Labor Julian Alvarez.

Local workforce development boards may use grant funding to support high-demand, job-training activities and related direct costs, including individual participant recruitment, skills assessment, job search skills improvement, equipment and minor renovation of facilities used for program-related job training.

For more information on the High Demand Job Training Program visit the TWC Web page or contact a local Workforce Solutions office.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our email updates.